

TOWN OF CLARENCE TRANSITIONS TO FALL

I hope most of you were able to attend the Labor Day Fair, hosted by the Clarence Center Volunteer Fire Company this year. They once again pulled off a truly incredible event, with fun things to do for all ages. This is certainly not an easy task to accomplish, but all of the hard work from the volunteers have truly paid off. Thank you and congratulations to all that were involved.

As we officially say goodbye to Summer in the Town of Clarence, it is an excellent opportunity to look back at the eventful summer that we had, and truly appreciate all of the accomplishments that our incredible town employees achieved during the busy past few months.

The Clarence Youth Bureau held 53 summer programs with 542 participants. This included field trips, outdoor movie nights, camping and more. Dawn Kinney, the Executive Director of the Clarence Youth Bureau has also noted that the Volunteer Program offered 139 events, with 770 volunteers totaling almost 2,000 hours of service.

Our Parks Department was busy with repairs and beautification projects throughout the summer. You will notice major painting and repairs to our historic Clubhouse at the Main Street Town Park, as well as at Meadowlakes and Goodrich Town Parks. Additionally, we completed major projects, including the Children's Reading Garden at the Library, and of course the beautiful new facilities at Main Street Town Park.

Our Recreation Department, led by Clifford Trapper, had a record year of activities as well. Thanks to the weather, our Town Pool had record daily attendance, and seasonal attendance. We also had strong participation in our sports programs, including our inaugural recreation pickle-ball season.

We had 13 roads paved by our Town Highway Department, and many miles of ditches cleared throughout the summer. With October just around the corner, we now transition into leaf pick-up. Halloween is considered peak pick-up time for leaves, however, one or two crews will start heading out in the early weeks of October. The ultimate goal for the town is to have the leaves picked up before the snow falls. Leaf pick-up ends based on the demand.

Please remember that leaves need to be placed on your property, and should not be on the actual town roads. Putting leaves and brush on the roads can pose a major hazard for pedestrians, and drivers. Everyone should expect to have one to two pickups per week, so please also note that there is no reason to call and let us know if your brush is curbside.

For the past two years, the town has composted the leaves and have been able to sell the pick-up in bulk. In addition to the leaf pick-up, brush pick-up will remain on the regular days, ending November 23rd (the day before Thanksgiving), and resuming in April 2017.

Additional information on the Highway Department, and leaf or brush pick-up can be found on the Town's website, www.clarence.ny.us.

In the mean time, I am concluding my work for the 2017 budget, and I am proud to say that we are remaining under the tax cap, while successfully continuing our support for many of our great programs and services offered in our town. The budget is expected to be officially released next month.